

Essay Checklist: ✓ or x the following items as they pertain to your current draft

Introduction

- ☐ Attention-grabbing opening statement.
- ☐ Very general information about the direction/coverage of the essay.
- ☐ Rationale for the essay (why is the topic important?).
- ☐ Thesis to guide the essay.

Body

- ☐ Necessary background information related to topic.
- ☐ Distinct ideas organized in separate paragraphs.
- ☐ An opening statement for each paragraph introducing the idea in my words.
- ☐ Information/facts founded on research to back up ideas in each paragraph from a reputable source.
- ☐ A concluding final statement in each paragraph to summarize the idea and/or link it to the next paragraph.

Conclusion

- ☐ Brief (2-3 sentence) summary of the main ideas in essay.
- ☐ Used originality to remind the reader of why the topic is important.
 - AND/OR ☐ To explain the significance of the findings of the essay.
 - AND/OR ☐ To suggest areas/questions for future research.
- ☐ Ended with a thought-provoking strong concluding statement for a lasting impression.

General Organization

- ☐ Title page with catchy title.
- ☐ Distinct introduction, body, and conclusion.
- ☐ Included citations for EVERY newly introduced idea/fact.
- ☐ Used at least **four** authored sources other than textbook.
- ☐ Double spaced with 12 point font.
- ☐ 1000-1500 words.
- ☐ Blended sources *within* and *between* paragraphs.
- ☐ Included a list of works cited using proper format.